

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 179073
ORIGIN AF-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-03 /007 R

66011
DRAFTED BY AF/C:REGRIBBIN
APPROVED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR
-----043905 151244Z /14
P 150547Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179073

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUBUMBASHI 0840 ACTION STATE INFO BRUSSELS DAKAR
KINSHASA RABAT PARIS DIA USCINCEUR JULY 14.

FOR ASST SEC MOOSE

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0840

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG
SUBJECT: VIEW FROM KOLWEZI, JULY 12,1978: THE SECURITY SITUATION

1. SUMMARY: VICE CONSUL VISITED KOLWEZI JULY 10/12 DURING WHICH
HE ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH PAF(PAN AFRICAN FORCES)AND FAZ
(ZAIRIAN ARMY) OFFICERS AS WELL AS LOCAL GECAMINES ZAIRIAN
MANAGEMENT AND SMALL EQATRIATE COMMUNITY. FOLLOWING DISCUSSES
THE CURRENT MILITARY SITUATION AS WELL AS THE RELATIONSHIPS
WITHIN THE TWO MILITARY FORCES, AND THEIR
RELATIONS WITH THE CIVILIAN POPULATION. END SUMMARY

2. MILITARY OPERATION: BURDEN OF DEFENDING KOLWEZI AND THE
SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE HAS BEEN MOST DSPLACED ON 600
MAN SENEGALESE AND 600 MAN MOROCCAN CONTINGENTS OF PAF.
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PAF IS RUNNING PATROLS WITHIN A PERIMETER RIGHLY 30
KILOMETERS RADIOUS FROM CENTER OF KOLWEZI, BUT OCCASIONALLY
MUCH FURTHER. SENGELASE PAF COMMANDER COLONEL NDOYE
SAID THAT HIS FORCES HAVE PATROLLED AS FAR AS ZAMBIAN
BORDER.

3. NORTH AND WEST OF KOLWEZI ARE UNOCCUPIED AREAS WHICH
PAF CONSIDERS A VIRTUAL "NO-MANS" LAND. SMALL GROUPS
OF REBELS ARE APPARENTLY OPERATING IN THESE AREAS ALTHOUGH
THEIR DEGREE OF ORGANIZATION IS UNCLEAR. THEY
MAY BE SIMPLY BRIGANDS. A SINGLE AMERICAN EMPLOYEE

OF CIS ON A ROAD MAINTENANCE MISSION BETWEEN KOLWEZI AND MUSONOIE ON JULY 8 WAS CONFRONTED BY FOUR ARMED MEN IN MILITARY UNIFORMS JUST SOUTH OF THE LUFUPATDIVER(1012S/2512E) FOR TUNATELG AN ESCORT OF MOROCCAN TROOPS WAS FOLLOWING THE AMERICAN AND FIRED ON THE FOUR, CHASING THEM OFF. MOROCCANS BELIEVE ONE WAS KILLED BUT BODY WAS NOT RECOVERED. SUBSEQUENTLY PATROLS BY MOROCCANS IN THIS AREA HAVE HAD NO CONTACT.

4. BELGIAN PRISTS AT KOLWEZI REPORT THAT KAFAKUMBA (0942S/2344E) WAS OCCUPIED BY FORCE OF ARMED MEN PRESUMABLY REBELS ON JUNE 30. NO COMBAT ENSUED AS FAZ ABANDONED ITS POSITIONS IN TOWN BEFORE THE ATTACK. OCCUPYING FORCE LEFT KAFAKUMBA ONE DAY LATER.

5. MOROCCAN COMMANDER, BAINARA LISTS HIS GREATEST NEED AS IN THE AREA OF INFORMATION. BAINARA SAID THAT ACCURATE INFORMATION PREFERABLY BASED ON AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE ON FLNC TROOP MOVEMENTS WAS A HIGH PRIORITY. PAF ALSO LACKS MAPS OF AREAS OF AZAMBIA
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AND ANGOLA WHICH ADJOIN SHABA.

6. A SIX MAN FRENCH ARMY TEAM HEADED BY MAJOR IS IN KOLWEZI. ITS MISSION IS COMBAT INTELLIGENCE AND LIAISON WITH THE PAF.

7. MILITARY POSITIONS:

THE PAN AFRICAN FORCES: UNDER THE COMMAND OF SENE GALESE COLONEL NDOYE PAF HAS DIVIDED THE KOLWEZI AREA INTO 4 SECTORS. THE WEST AND NORTH ARE IN THE HANDS OF MOROCCAN FORCES WHICH OCCUPY THE "OLD CITY" OF KOLWEZI, THE GECMINES CITE AND THE GECAMINES INSTALLATION (KOLWEZI/KAMOTA/LUILU AND THE ZINC FACTORY) THE SOUTH AND EAST ARE CONTROLLED BY THE SENEGALESE (AIRPORT"NEW CITY" MANIKA CITE, AND RAILROAD STATION) COLONEL NDOYE HAS AS HIS DEPUTY AT THE PAF HEADQUARTERS MOROCCANS COMMANDANT BUCHE. OPERATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE MOROCCAN FORCES IS COMMADANT MOHAMMID DIN BAINARA.

8. THE MOROCCAN FORCES ARE MUCH MORE IN EVIDENCE ON PATROLS AND IN CONTROL POSITIONS IN THE EUROPEAN AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS. MOROCCANS HAVE BETTER COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY AND MORE MOBILITY.

9. COLONEL NDOYE IS ON EXCELLENT TERMS WITH GECAMINES ZAIRIAN CADRE LEADERSHIP AND APPEARS TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE FAZ AS WELL. DESPITE THE OVERALL

COMMAND STRUCTURE WHICH GIVES CHARGE TO THE SENEGALESE, THE MOROCCAN OPERATIONS COMMANDER DISPLAYS A MEASURE OF INDEPENDENCE BECAUSE OF HIS DIRECT CONTACT TO THE PAF COMMANDER-IN CHIEF COLONEL MAJOR LOUBARIS. NDOYE ON THE OTHER HAND IS RESPECTED BY THE BATTLEA TESTED MOROCCAN OFFICERS AS A PROVEN SOLDIER. NDOYE FOUGHT WITH THE FRNECH ARMY IN ALGERIA IN 1959 MORROCCAN CONFIDENTIAL

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BATTALION UNDER BAINARA ALL FOUGHT AS A GROUP IN SAHARA.

10. THE LAST ELEMENTS OF SENEGALESE BATTALION ARRIVED IN KOLWEZI WEEKEND OF JULY 8. SENEGALESE NOW HAVE THEIR FULL COMPLEMENT OF MEN AND MATERIAL. ONLY REAL PROBLEMS IN COLONEL NDOYES VIEW IS NATURE OF MOROCCAN SUPPLIED FOOD PROVISIONS. DIFFERENCE IFN FOOD PREFERENCES HAS CAUSED SOME SMALL MORALE PROBLEMS AMONG THE SENEGALESE. NDOYE HAS REQUESTED THAT PRODUCREMENT FOR NEXT PROVISIONING PPERATION BE DONE IN SENEGAL AS WELL AS IN FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

11. FAZ: GENERAL DIKUTA HAS REESTABLISHED THE HQ OF THE 14TH BRIGADE, KAMANYOLA DIVISION AT WHAT WAS FORMERLY "QUARTIER-GENERAL" OF SHABA SPECIAL MILI TARY REGION. HQ IS LOCATED AT EASTERN EDGE OF THE "NEW CITY" WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT THE UNITS UNDER HIS COMMAND, DIKUTA DID NOT NAME THE SPECIFIC UNITS BUT INSTEAD REMAKRED THAT HE HAD A "LITTLE OF EVERY THING" (UN PEU DE TOUT) INCLUDING THE LOCAL GEN DARMERIE. KDIJUTA SIAD THAT HIS EFFORTS WERE STILL IN THE DOMAN OF REORGANIZATION AND REGROUPMENT. HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY REINFORCEMENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE NOR DID HE GIVE ANY INDICATION OF MOVEMENTS OR OPERATIONS BY HIS TROOPS OUTSIDE THE KOLEZI AREA.

12. FAZ STATE OF EFFECTIVENESS IN AND AROUND KOLWEZI SEEM TO BE VERY LOW. DEFENSIVE POSITIONS ARE SEEMINGLY ALL HELD BY PAF TROOPS. VICE CONSUL HEARD THAT FAZ IN KOLWEZI HAD RECENTLY BEEN APID FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL

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FIRST TIME IN THREE MONTHS. FAZ IS SEEMINGLY DE PENDENT UPON LOCAL POPULATION AND/OR LOCAL ECONOMY FOR FOOD PROVISIONING. SUPPLY SITUATION HAS BEEN COMPLICATED BY RECENT BREAKDOWN OF ONE FAZ C-130 TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT, WHICH LOST A LANDING GEAR AT KOLWEZI AIRPORT.

13. FOCUS OF FAZ SUB-REGIONAL AUTHORITIES IS BETTER IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR LOCAL POPULATION. SUB REGIONAL COMMISSIONER COLONEL IKANSHA PLANS TO LAUNCH CITY WIDE CENSUS OPERATION WITHIN TWO WEEKS. FAZ ADMINISTRATION HAS REQUESTED NEW DOCUMENTATION PROCEDURES AND MATERIALS FROM REGIONAL AUTHORITIES IN SEARCH FOR NEW UNIFORM METHODS OF IDENTIFYING LOCAL CITIZENS, ESPECIALLY THE UNEMPLOYED.

14. FAZ/CIVILIAN POPULATIONS RELATIONS: ACCORDING TO THE FEW EXPATRIATES (LESS THAN THIRTY) CURRENTLY IN KOLWEZI LOOTING BY FAZ SOLDIERS HAS DIMINISHED FROM THE HIGH LEVEL OF ABOUT FOUR WEEKS AGO, BUT EXPATS ATTRIBUTE THIS TO THE SCARCITY OF INTACT GOODS AND POSSESSIONS REMAINING IN THE CITY. ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR OF BELGIAN SCHOOL, LYCEE JEAN XXIII OF FIFTY-TWO HOUSES INSPECTED BY HIS STAFF ONLY FOUR WERE RELATIVELY UNTOUCHED. LOOTING IS COMPLETE AND LOCUST-LIKE SOMETIMES INCLUDING ITEMS SUCH AS DOORS AND ROOFING. PAF FORCES HAVE AT TIMES INTERVENED USUALLY AT REQUEST OF GECAMINES OR EXPATRIATES TO CURB THE MOST FLAGRANT INSTANCES. VICE CONSUL OBSERVED TWO FAZ UNIMOGS LOADED WITH FURNITURE, MATTRESSES AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD GOODS HEADIN IN DIRECTION OF FAZ BILLETS NEAR HQ. EXPATRIATES TOLD VICE COL UL THAT WHILE FAZ OFFICERS ARE NO LONGER ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING AND SUPERVISING LOOTING ACTIVITIES, THEIR ATTEMPTS TO SUPPRESS IT ARE HALF-HEARTED AND INEFFECTIVE.
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15. LOCAL CND (ZAIRIAN FBI) OFFICIAL TOLD VICE CONSUL THE GOZ EFFORTS TO PENETRATE LOCAL POPULATION HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL. EXPATRIATE SAID THAT THEIR CONTACTS WITH LOCAL FAZ LEADERSHIP LEAD THEM TO BELIEVE THAT FAZ CONSIDERED ENTIRE ZAIRIAN POPULATION OF KOLWEZI TO BE POTENTIAL REBELS AND WOULD ACT AS SUCH.

16. DOMINANT ROLE OF GECAMINES IN LOCAL ECONOMY HAS PLACED ITS LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN A COMPETITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH FAZ ADMINISTRATION. AS MOROCCAN COMMANDER REMARKED THERE ARE IN EFFECT TWO GOVERNMENTS IN KOLWEZI. FAZ AND GECAMINES: LOCAL POPULATION LOOKS TO GECAMINES NOT ONLY AS ECONOMIC BENEFACOR BUT AS POTENTIAL SALVATION FROM FAZ REPRESSIVE MEASURES. GECAMINES OFFICIALS IN TURN COUNT ON PAF TO SUPPORT THEM IN CASE OF SEVERE FAZ INTIMIDATION.

17. PAF/CIVILIAN RELATIONS: THERE IS AN OBVIOUS DISCHOTOMY IN CONTACTS WITH PAF BETWEEN ZAIRIANS AND EXPATRIATES. ZAIRIANS NOTABLY GECAMINES CADRE PREFER

TO DEAL WITH COLONEL NDOYE AND SENEGALES. MOROCCANS ARE PREFERRED BY EXPATRIATES. AS YET THIS DOES NFZ SEEM TO BE THE SOURCE OF ANY TENSIONS WITP PAF. WHILE EXPATRIATES HAVE LITTLE CONTACT WITH SENEGALESE GECAMINES OFFICIALS BY NATURE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE FACT ATHAT MOROCCANS ARE GUARDING MOST GECAMIMES INSTALLATIONS DEAL WITH MOROCCANS AND APPEAR TO BE ON GOOD TERMS. OFFICIALLY GECAMINES CADRE PASS THROUGH CHAIN OF COMMAND WITH PAF COMMANDER NDOYE. SIX AMERICANS AT CONSTRUCTEURS ING-SHABA CAMP NORTH OF CITY ARE ON EXCELLENT TERMS WITH MOROCCANS HAVING SUPPLIED THEM WITH TWELVE PORTABLE RADIO UNITS, CONFIDENTIAL

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FOOD AND CIGARETTES. APPRECOMATELY 10 MOROCCAN SOLDIERS ARE BILETED AT CIS CAMP. BELGIAN PRIESTS AT LYCEE JEAN XXIII ARE MUCH MORE DISTANT WITH PAF. MOROCCANS DESCRIBE THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR AS LESS THAN CANDID. BELGIAN PRIESTS REPORT OBSERVING SENEGALESE TROOPS ENGAGED IN OCCASIONAL LOTTING IN ABANDONED HOUSES.

18. PAF/FAZ RELATIONS: WHILE ON SURFACE PAF AND FAZ HAVE CLOSE AND COMPLEMENTARY RELATIONSHIP THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE OF FRICTIONS ESPECIALLY BETWEEN MOROCCANS AND FAZ. THERE IS ONE REPORT FROM EXPATRIATE SOURCES THAT MOROCCANS HAVE SO FAR SHOT AND KILLED TWO FAZ SOLDIERS. AMERICANS AT CIS REPORT THAT MOROCCANS HAVE CAUGHT FAZ SOLDIERS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TIETHER LOOTING OR MISTREATING LOCALS AND DISCIPLINED THEM ACCORDINGLY AT ONE POINT JAILING A FAZ CAPTAIN. MOROCCANS COMMANDER DENIES THAT THERE ARE ANY SUBSTANTIAL PROBLEMS WITH FAZ BUT ESSENTIALLY VERIFIED POLICE ACTION BY HIS TROOPS. MOROCCAN COMMANDER RATIONALIZES FAZ INDISCIPLINE AS A RESULT OF THEIR LACK OF SUPPORT AND LACK OF TRAINING. MOROCCANS COMMANDER REMARKED THAT AT ONE POINT SINCE PAF ARRIVED HE REQUESTED AND RECEIVED TWENTY FAZ SOLDIERS ASSIGNED T HIS COMMAND. WITHIN TWO WEEKS HE HAD RETRAINED THEM INTO AN EFFECTIVE FIGHTING FORCE. TYPIFYING TENSION BETWEEN MOROCCANS AND FAZ IS COMMANDANT BAINARA'S REPORT THAT DESPITE THREE REQUESTS, SUB REGIONAL COMMISSIONER COLONEL IKANSHA HAS REFUSED TO MEET WITH HIM TO DICUSS COMMON PROBLEMS. BORG UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 sep 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE179073
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/C:REGRIBBIN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780290-1113
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197807106/baaaefv.tel
Line Count: 266
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2170566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1857189
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIEW FROM KOLWEZI, JULY 12,1978: THE SECURITY SITUATION
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG
To: LUXEMBOURG
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2170566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014